
CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES
Department of Workforce Services
1385 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 26, 2005
12:30 p.m.

Presiding: Greg Diven, Chair

Present: Allan Ayoub, Jane Reister Conard, Charles Daud, Edith Fauver, Bev Graham, Linda Fife, Bob Haywood, Todd Henriksen, Colleen Johnson, Douglas Johnston, Akilah Messado, Jill Merritt, Jon Pierpont, Dr. Stephen Ronnenkamp, Karen Silver, Melva Sine, Kerry Steadman, Russ Thelin, Julie Zimmerman

Absent: Ron Andersen, Kent Anderson, Jennifer Carroll, Norman Fitzgerald, Sen. Brent Goodfellow, John Hill, Nancy Malecker, Louie Silveira, M. Ali Wilkinson

Excused: Councilman Jim Bradley, Stephanie Frohman, Tony Gomez, Paul Jackson, Diane Lovell, Steven Rosenberg, Kevin Schofield

Guests: Janice Barson-Sorenson Development, Jane Broadhead, Kent Fitzgerald-Salt Lake County, Stephen Maas-DWS Assistant Deputy Director

Staff: Karla Aguirre, Jane Broadhead, Brent Fife, Leno Franco, Steve Leyba, Laurel Morris, Mary Pannunizio, Brad Newsome, Mary Peterson, Robyn Thomas

Call to Order & Announcements

Chairman Greg Diven called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Mr. Diven began by welcoming Janice Barson, Human Resource Director - Sorenson Development as a potential Council member, Jane Broadhead-DWS Youth Programs Manager, Kent Fitzgerald-Salt Lake County YES Program, Mary Pannunzio, new DWS Manager -West Valley City Employment Center, Laurel Morris, new Business Services Manager and Stephen Maas-DWS Assistant Deputy Director.

Chairman Diven paid special recognition to Todd Henriksen for his service as an active member of the Council and presented him with a plaque honoring his contributions and support.

Brent Fife, Manager of the Central Region Eligibility Center (CRESC) highlighted activities and accomplishments of the Eligibility Center. The CRESC is home to approximately 150 staff with 8 Eligibility Teams, an Imaging Team, the Central Region Training Center and a few out-stationed staff from the department.

Mr. Diven thanked Jill Merritt, Kevin Schofield and the Marketing Committee for coordinating the very successful April Retreat.

Chairman Diven reported that Sarah Brenna, DWS Program Manager, updated the Executive Committee on Faith Based Initiatives and a final report was mailed to all Council members. The role of Department of Workforce Services at this time is to provide technical assistance, as there is no funding available through the department.

Greg Diven also announced that Bob Haywood is the permanent designee for the Department of Human Services, replacing Megan Wiesen.

Mr. Diven then reported on a meeting that he and Jon Pierpont held with Stephanie Frohman and other EDCU representatives and DWS Economist James Robson to discuss a joint research project aimed at collecting data on the productivity of Utah's workforce and other labor force characteristics. A follow up meeting will be scheduled between DWS LMI Managers and EDCU to discuss possible data gathering approaches and strategies to help promote Utah to out-of-state businesses.

Chairman Diven noted that the Literacy Action Center has received a grant from Salt Lake County to provide training on reading and writing to companies with employee literacy needs. More information can be obtained from Deb Young, Director of the Literacy Action Center at 265-9081. Ms. Young may be asked to report more on this program at a later meeting.

Consent Agenda

Norm Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the March 24, 2005 Regional Council Minutes and the May 12, 2005 Executive Committee minutes. Jane Reister Conard seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The motion passed.

Incumbent Worker Training Program Presentation

Stephan Maas, DWS Assistant Deputy Director began his remarks by noting that the Program is funded by the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA). He handed out and discussed a FAQs sheet that included the following:

- What is the Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWTP)?
- What types of training can the IWTP fund?
- Who is eligible?
- What costs can the Incumbent Worker Training Program reimburse?
- What are some of the costs that will not be reimbursed under the IWTP?
- How is the business reimbursed?
- What does "Performance-Based" mean?
- What is the term of my IWTP grant contract?
- What is required of the business?
- What kind of reporting is required once a grant is received?
- Can you help us find employees?
- Where can the training take place?
- Who actually does the training?

- Where can an application be obtained?
- How long does the process take after the application is submitted?
- Who provides technical assistance?
- What happens after a grant is approved?

RFP for Youth Services & Youth Council Report

Jon Pierpont reported on the Youth Services Request for Proposal (RFP) announcement, review, and selection process. He noted that only one proposal was received - which was from Salt Lake County's Youth Employment Services (YES) Program. The proposal review committee found the YES proposal inadequate and asked County staff to redevelop the program design, to respond to all requested elements and to re-submit the proposal by June 2nd. If the review committee determines the proposal is satisfactory and feels confident that YES can meet required outcomes, then DWS will begin negotiations to develop a one-year (renewable) contract.

Mr. Pierpont indicated that DWS will be more involved in program oversight and the YES Operations will be physically located at DWS Administration.

Member Re-appointments

Greg Diven drew attention to the list the Council members nominated for 4-year re-appointments, from July 2005 through June 2009. Jane Reister Conard has declined reappointment. Mr. Diven noted that Ms. Conard has been an active member and leader on the Council for 12 years. He recognized Ms. Conard for her many contributions and considerable time served on the Council.

Allan Ayoub moved approval of the nominees slated for membership re-appointment through 2009 (J. Carroll, G. Diven, T. Gomez, J. Hill, P. Jackson, D. Johnston, J. Zimmerman, K. Anderson). Jane Reister Conard seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The motion passed.

Committee Reports & 2006 Goals

Basic Needs – Karen Silver reported on a presentation made to staff regarding the Immigrant Population information. She indicated the next step is for the Basic Needs Committee to contact the Refugee Immigrant agencies to determine the gaps and how the Council can help in this area. The findings will be reported at the June Council meeting.

Edith Fauver spoke briefly on Older Workers and indicated that many may not continue working due to the disincentives in the State of Utah. Ms. Fauver suggested looking at what we could do on a State level to help with this concern.

Facilities – Leno Franco stated a 2-year lease has been signed for the Eligibility Center on Vine Street. The 3-year lease for the Downtown Employment Center is pending. Jon Pierpont and Leno Franco will be meeting with Senior Management on the long-term future of our facilities.

Marketing – Jill Merritt reported that the Marketing Committee is in the process of revising its goals so that they are more consistent with the Council’s mission.

Training & Development – Linda Fife reported that there were no applications from potential new training providers. She noted that the Training & Development Committee eliminated Goal #3.

Executive Committee – Greg Diven reported the Executive Committee will meet on either June 3rd or June 8th to develop and refine its goals. He asked members to review the draft Committee objectives and to submit other suggestions. A notification will be sent inviting all Council members to attend the special Executive Committee meeting.

Ad hoc Health Care Committee

Jane Reister Conard referred to a summary of the Health Committee’s Objective under Tab 4 in Council packets. The summary includes the objective’s slogan, strategy, action plans, and the next steps. Ms. Conard noted that the Committee wants to collaborate with the Department of Health to promote workplace wellness programs to small employers.

Jane Reister Conard moved the Council endorse the Committee’s Objective and next steps as outlined. Jill Merritt seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. Motion passed.

Executive Roundtable Committee

Chairman Diven reported on the April 19th Manufacturing Roundtable and noted that the objectives were met. Positive outcomes were achieved and 11 items have been addressed as a result of this Roundtable.

The inaugural Automotive/Heavy Duty Technician Roundtable was held on May 25th. Thirty individuals (12 or more industry representatives) attended and discussed concerns and disconnects between schools and industry. A follow-up Roundtable will be scheduled sometime in August or September to address concerns raised. Chairman Diven indicated this was a successful event with excellent presentations and key attendees.

Commissioner Colleen Johnson expressed her appreciation for the Roundtable and felt it was a positive meeting and discussion.

Linda Fife indicated the Applied Technology Colleges rely on their Employer Advisory Committees to provide guidance on industry-specific curriculum development. At the Roundtable, some displeasure was expressed regarding the connection between schools and employer needs. Ms. Fife noted that one of the attendees agreed to participate on the ATC Employer Advisory Committee and this represents a positive outcome from the Roundtable.

Regional Director's Report

Jon Pierpont shared a trophy "Taking the Bull by the Horns" which was given to Central Region for having the highest level of expenditures in training dollars for the first quarter.

Mr. Pierpont also provided "wrap up" report for Central Region that illustrated the region was on track with a credible and viable training program as promised.

Jane Reister Conard commented that under Jon Pierpont's leadership, the staff have rallied and turned training around taking Central Region from last place to first place in just a little over a year. Mr. Pierpont contributed much of the success and achievements to his staff. He will provide another update on training in August.

Jon Pierpont handed out an updated Organization Chart for Central Region and noted the changes that have taken place which include:

- The Business Services Center has been put back under Central Region
- Kim Auberger is the Metro Center Manager
- Laurel Morris is Manager of the Business Services Center
- Bill Bridge has moved to manage the State Office Quality Controls/Evaluations Unit
- Mary Pannunzio is the West Valley Employment Center Manager

Mr. Pierpont then announced that Tani Downing named a new Internal Audit Director, LeeAnn Muranaka and also noted that recruitment is underway for a new Regional Director in North Region.

The Governor has declared June as "Hiring Veterans" month. Mr. Pierpont indicated that the local EC Managers and the Business Services Manager will coordinate efforts to emphasize support to veterans in June.

Another event scheduled in June is a Refugee Immigrant Job Fair. This Fair was scheduled following the success achieved by the recent Job Fair for Ex-felons.

Jon Pierpont and Russ Thelin, State Office of Rehabilitation, will work together to sponsor a Job Fair sometime in October targeting people with disabilities. It was suggested that older workers be targeted for a Job Fair in September during "Older Workers" month. Mr. Pierpont concurred with the suggestion.

Lastly, Mr. Pierpont reported that DWS is going to place additional emphasis on the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) participation effort. Current 17% of the TANF population participates in a work activity; however, our goal is to reach 50% participation next year. A plan will be developed outlining measures to meet this goal.

One issue that will become more important as we increase the rate of TANF customer participation is the need to develop work experience/training/OJT worksites with

businesses. Laurel Morris, Business Services Manager will spearhead worksite development for Central Region.

Mr. Pierpont will be asking the Council for its help and support in reaching the 50% TANF participation goal and to help identify employers willing to provide worksite-learning opportunities.

Old Business

Jill Merritt asked where we currently stand regarding Food Stamp accuracy. Jon Pierpont indicated this information will be received and reported sometime in August.

New Business

Greg Diven asked the Council to follow the “Spot the Tot” Program efforts to help eliminate accidents involving children.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.